



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON, DC 20350-2000

IN REPLY REFER TO

OPNAVINST 3590.11E
N312D
19 April 1993

OPNAV INSTRUCTION 3590.11E

From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: THE ARLEIGH BURKE FLEET TROPHY/MARJORIE STERRETT
BATTLESHIP FUND AWARD/USS ARIZONA MEMORIAL TROPHY

1. Purpose. To collate information on the Arleigh Burke Fleet Trophy, the Marjorie Sterrett Battleship Fund Award and USS ARIZONA Memorial Trophy; to issue detailed procedures for effecting these awards; and to provide for distribution of income from the Marjorie Sterrett Battleship Fund.

2. Cancellation. OPNAVINST 3590.11D.

3. Background

a. Arleigh Burke Fleet Trophy. Admiral Arleigh A. Burke, USN, had a distinguished naval career spanning more than 38 years. The name, Arleigh Burke, symbolizes the essence of sea power. He made vital contributions in many key warfare areas including: battle efficiency, new tactical concepts, weapon systems and naval leadership. It is proper that his name be associated with this award which recognizes outstanding battle efficiency.

b. Marjorie Sterrett Battleship Fund Award. This is a fund established in 1917 by the Tribune Association. It was initiated by a contribution which accompanied the following letter:

Brooklyn, N.Y.
February 2, 1916

"To the Editor of the New York Tribune

"Dear Sir:

I read in your paper every morning a lot about preparedness. My grandpa and my great grandpa were soldiers. If I was a boy I would be a soldier, too, but I am not, so I want to do what I can to help. Mama gives me a dime every week for helping her. I am sending you this week's dime to help build a battleship for Uncle Sam. I know a lot of other kids would give their errand money if **you would start a fund.** I am 13



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19 APR 1993

years old, and go to Public School No. 9, Brooklyn.

Truly yours,
MARJORIE STERRETT"

Prior to World War II, income from this fund was used to pay prizes annually to turret and gun crews making the highest scores in short-range battle practice, and to submarine crews making the highest scores in torpedo firing. Since the end of World War II, the Navy has emphasized readiness and fitness of the ship rather than competition between individual departments. Accordingly, the income from the trust fund has been used to promote battle efficiency by its payment to ships which stand first in the intra-type battle efficiency competitions. It has been the policy to rotate eligibility for the award annually among the various type commands.

c. USS ARIZONA Memorial Trophy. On behalf of the Secretary of the Navy, the Chief of Naval Operations accepted the USS ARIZONA Memorial Trophy from the citizens of Arizona on 7 December 1987. The trophy is promoted and funded by the Arizona Navy League, USS ARIZONA Survivors Association, and other fraternal and civic groups in Arizona. Consistent with the mission of USS ARIZONA, the trophy is an award for combat readiness competition among ships of the surface force with primary missions in Strike Warfare, Surface Fire Support and Anti-Surface Warfare.

4. Description

a. Arleigh Burke Award

(1) The name of the award will be "The Arleigh Burke Fleet Trophy."

(2) The trophy will be in the form of a plaque, which will be awarded annually to one ship or aircraft squadron in both the U.S. Atlantic and U.S. Pacific Fleets, as a permanent award to be retained on board.

(3) The award will be given to the ship or aircraft squadron of each fleet selected by its Fleet Commander in Chief for having achieved the greatest improvement in battle efficiency during the calendar year based upon the Battle Efficiency Competition.

(4) Each trophy award will indicate the parent fleet, the name of the commanding officer(s) of the ship or squadron, and the year awarded.

19 APR 1993

b. Marjorie Sterrett Award

(1) The name of the award will be "The Marjorie Sterrett Battleship Fund Award."

(2) The award will be in the form of a monetary contribution to be awarded annually to one ship in both the U.S. Atlantic and U.S. Pacific Fleets. Commanding officers receiving money from the trustee shall cause the full amount of such money to be placed in the recreation fund, safeguarded, accounted for, and expended following the current regulations for handling of such funds, and subject to the further provisions that funds shall be used for the benefit of enlisted personnel only, and for one or more of the below listed purposes:

(a) For athletic equipment or special equipment for rifle or pistol teams to be used in competition not connected with preliminary instruction and record practice qualification firing of those weapons, provided that the supplies and equipment furnished by the Government for such purposes are not sufficient to meet the needs of the command.

(b) For repairing athletic equipment.

(c) For prizes for athletic and marksmanship competitions with infantry weapons, when such marksmanship competitions are not connected with preliminary instruction and record practice in the qualification firing of those weapons.

(d) For furniture and equipment for recreation rooms and for repairs and replacements thereto, when such furniture, equipment, repairs, replacements are not otherwise obtainable from the Government.

(e) For dances, picnics, parties, and similar recreational activities.

(f) For necessary music and instruments for organized bands and orchestras when such music and instruments are not otherwise obtainable from the Government.

(g) For purchasing electronic sound devices such as stereo systems, video tape players, radios, and similar recreational equipment.

c. USS ARIZONA Memorial Trophy

(1) The name of the award will be "The USS ARIZONA Memorial Trophy."

19 APR 1993

(2) The trophy is made of bronze, stands approximately three feet high and is set in a black marble base. It will be awarded to the ship having achieved the greatest combat readiness in Strike Warfare, Surface Fire Support and Anti-Surface Warfare as determined by the Chief of Naval Operations, during a two-year competitive period.

5. Procedures

a. For the Arleigh Burke Fleet Trophy and Marjorie Sterrett Battleship Fund Award, Fleet Commanders in Chief are given wide latitude in determining those factors most essential in contributing to the selection of a particular unit for those awards. For the USS ARIZONA Memorial trophy, Fleet Commanders in Chief are to provide the Chief of Naval Operations with objective and subjective data to substantiate their nomination for the award.

b. It is possible that a winner of the intra-type battle efficiency competition could also win the Arleigh Burke Fleet Trophy, the Marjorie Sterrett Battleship Fund Award, or the USS ARIZONA Memorial Trophy.

c. The competitive periods for the awards are:

(1) The Arleigh Burke Fleet Trophy - calendar year.

(2) The Marjorie Sterrett Battleship Fund Award-calendar year.

(3) The USS ARIZONA Memorial Trophy - two-year competitive periods ending 31 December of each even numbered year.

6. Action

a. Arleigh Burke Award

(1) Fleet Commanders in Chief will select annually the ship or aircraft squadron winning the award within two months after the end of the calendar year per the foregoing, and will present the trophy at an appropriate ceremony on behalf of the Chief of Naval Operations.

(2) As directed by the Fleet Commanders in Chief, the Type Commanders will forward a letter of commendation for the commanding officer(s) of the winning unit to reach the Chief of Naval Operations (attention: N312) for CNO's signature no later than two months after the end of the calendar year.

(3) Fabrication and distribution of trophies to Fleet Commanders in Chief will be coordinated by CNO (N312).

19 APR 1993

b. Marjorie Sterrett Award

(1) The Chief of Naval Operations will notify the Commanders in Chief, U.S. Atlantic and U.S. Pacific Fleets by June of each year as to the type command from which nominations should be made for that calendar year.

(2) Fleet Commanders in Chief will select annually the ship winning the award from the specified Type Command within two months after the end of the calendar year, per the foregoing, and will present the award at an appropriate ceremony on behalf of the Chief of Naval Operations.

(3) As directed by the Fleet Commanders in Chief, Type Commanders will provide nominations and justifications for the unit nominated from that specified ship type.

(4) The Chief of Naval Operations will announce the winner of the award, will certify to the trustee of the fund the names of the ships selected, and request available funds be equally distributed to the commanding officer of each winning ship through the cognizant Type Commander.

c. USS ARIZONA Memorial Trophy

(1) Fleet Commanders in Chief will submit one nomination by letter to CNO (N312) no later than 90 days after the end of the competitive period. Sample factors identified to substantiate nominations should be presented in the following bulletized format:

(a) Operational Readiness

- Cruise Missile Tactical Qualification
- Naval Gunfire Support (NGFS) scores
- Fuel Efficiency (SECNAV Energy Conservation Award input)
- Retention
- Logistics Management Assessment
- Combat System Assessment
- Command Excellence Award

(b) Operational Performance

- Deployments
- Exercise participation
- Projects (CNO, RTDE, etc.) conducted
- Other

(c) Miscellaneous achievements contributing to
readiness


(d) Narrative

(2) The Chief of Naval Operations will select and announce the winner of the USS ARIZONA Memorial Trophy by message.

(3) Following the award announcement, the Chief of Naval Operations will advise the Chairperson of the USS ARIZONA Memorial Trophy Committee by letter of the recipient of the award, along with pertinent selection data.

(4) The winner's administrative Intermediate Unit Commander (IUC) will conduct an appropriate ceremony and presentation. The IUC of each subsequent winner will contact the unit on which the award resides to arrange for transshipment. All recipients of the USS ARIZONA Memorial Trophy will, in addition, receive a miniature facsimile award from the USS ARIZONA Memorial Trophy Committee for permanent retention onboard.

7. Reports. The reporting requirement contained in paragraph six is exempt from reports control by SECNAVINST 5214.2B.


LEIGHTON W. SMITH
Deputy Chief of Naval
Operations (Plans, Policy,
and Operations) (N3/N5)

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19 APR 1993

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